

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Minor changes are made to this specification. Claims 5 and 11 are amended. Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Objections to the Specification

The disclosure is objected to for the following informality: at p. 1, para. 4, the office contends that the phrase "does not often exchanges" should be replaced with "does not often exchange." In response, Applicant has amended the specification in the manner suggested by the office. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The disclosure is also objected to for the following informality: at p. 4, para. 6, the office contends that the phrase "massage-ID" should be replaced with "message-ID." In response, Applicant has amended the specification in the manner suggested by the office. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Claims

Claim 1 is objected to for the following informality: the office contends that the phrase "manger" should be replaced with "manager." Applicant has carefully reviewed claim 1, and the word "manger" does not appear in the claim. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes however that claim 5, which depends from claim 1, includes the phrase "manger" which is objected to by the Office. Applicant has amended claim 5 in the manner suggested by the office.

Claim 11 is also objected to for the following informality: the office contends that the phrase "manger" should be replaced with "manager." In response,

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Applicant has amended claim 11 in the manner suggested by the office.
Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections of the Claims—35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Sekiguchi (U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2002/0054335). Claims 5 and 11 are amended. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as to the amended claims.

A rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) may be overcome by perfecting a claim of priority. MPEP 706.02(b). The present application was filed on August 3, 2001 and claims priority to JP 2000-243745 filed August 11, 2000. By perfecting its claim of priority in the present application, applicant is entitled to rely on its priority date of August 11, 2000 for purposes of prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). This date is well before the U.S. filing date of Sekiguchi in the United States, August 1, 2001. Moreover, the Office cannot rely on the Japanese priority dates of Sekiguchi for prior art purposes under §102(e). (See MPEP 2136.03). Thus, by perfecting the claim of priority, the present application antedates Sekiguchi. As required by MPEP 706.02(b), a certified copy of JP 2000-243745 has previously been submitted and a certified translation of the priority document is transmitted herewith.

Applicant respectfully submits that the priority document satisfies the enablement and description requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. MPEP 706.02(b) requires that an examiner establish that the priority documents satisfies the enablement and description requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph in order to perfect priority. Applicant respectfully requests that the examiner make such the necessary finding, and deem Applicant's priority perfected.

Based on the foregoing Applicant respectfully requests claims 1-20 be allowed.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

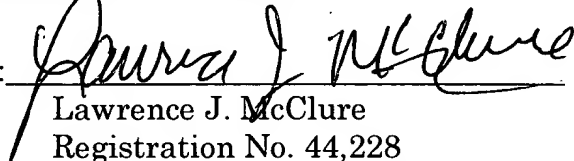
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6810 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: April 25, 2005

By:


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